

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01

ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 /071 W

-----077047 241636Z /46

O 241602Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3600

INFO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, MASS, NU

SUBJECT: REACTION TO HOUSE VOTE ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA

1. SOMOZA FAMILY NEWSPAPER NOVEDADES PUBLISHED JUNE 24 A PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PRESS OF THE PRESIDENCY WHICH STATED THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES RATIFIED IN TODAY'S SESSION ITS SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA PRESIDED BY GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA BY CONFIRMING THE NEW MILITARY ASSISTANCE BUDGET.

"THE VOTE CAME AFTER A DEBATE IN WHICH SOME CONGRESSMEN, LED BY CONGRESSMAN EDWARD KOCH OF NEW YORK, TRIED TO INTRODUCE ARTICLES FROM NOTORIOUSLY BIASED INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT.

"TODAY'S DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WAS THE CULMINATION OF A MASSIVE CAMPAIGN OF CALUMNY MOUNTED IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS BY NICARAGUAN OPPOSITIONISTS SUCH AS THE POLITICAL ACTIVISTS FATHERS ERNESTO AND FERNANDO CARDENAL AND MIGUEL D'ESCOTO, IN COLLABORATION WITH LEFTIST AND COMMUNIST POLITICAL GROUPS, SUCH AS THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA
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(WOLA) AND THE NORTH AMERICAN CONGRESS ON LATIN AMERICA (NACLA).

"WHEN THE FALSE CAMPAIGN DIRECTED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA WAS FORCEFULLY REJECTED, CONGRESSMAN KOCH SUFFERED ONE OF THE GREATEST POLITICAL DEFEATS IN HIS CAREER.

"THE VOTE WAS 225 IN FAVOR OF MAINTAINING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA, AND 181 AGAINST. UNQUOTE.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE CABLE EMBASSY ASAP THE OFFICIAL TALLY AND THE LANGUAGE OF THE LEGISLATION AS REFERS TO NICARAGUA.

3. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY REALIZES THAT CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA IS STILL SUBJECT TO SENATE DEBATE, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT LOCALLY IN VIEW OF THE GON PRESS RELEASE. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY PLANS, IF DEPT PERCEIVES NO OBJECTIONS, TO ISSUE A STATEMENT EXPLAING THAT MILITARY ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PROVIDED ONLY IF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DETERMINES, IN CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS, THAT THERE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN NICARAGUA.
RUBENSTEIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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